

Bailey, Heather

From: Tracy Doreen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 4:36 PM
To: PLLCApplications
Cc: Rummel, Marsha
Subject: Agenda item #2 817 Williamson Street opposition

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Dear Landmarks Commission,

I am writing again to ask that you please do not approve the proposed building for 817 Williamson St.

I quote here from the letter I wrote to you in early June asking you: “to uphold standards and characteristics needed for new buildings to fit harmoniously into this historic neighborhood. The developer needs to go back to the drawing board for the plan for 817. The current proposal is not visually compatible with the present historic buildings in the areas of the Gross Volume, Height, design of the roof, and The rhythm of masses and spaces.”

Thank you. You asked for changes and some changes were made. Though a few things have been tweaked, they are not to the extent of what “going back to the drawing board” truly means. In stating this in my previous letter, I meant the design had failed and to start over.

Even with the facade and setback changes, the overall size of this building does not work for many who appreciate the historic Third Lake Ridge including me. The attraction of Willy Street is not the larger new buildings. No, they are not the attraction because most often they really do not fit. Voids and green space seem not to be considered when squishing. Why would you approve something that doesn't fit in this historic district? Needed housing? Then build two-flat or three-flat houses - for families.

I am a long time resident living less than two blocks from 817 Williamson. I bought my home as a first time home buyer thirty years ago and it is the only home I have ever owned. As other long time owners in this neighborhood have observed, in saving these historic houses we have created a desirable place to invest. Yet with these investments comes great responsibility. We trust that Landmarks will more strongly guide investors to seriously understand and uphold the historic standards we demand be respected.

The reworked designs presented for 817 Williamson do not meet the “standards and characteristics needed for new buildings to fit harmoniously into this historic neighborhood.” The building is too big. Period.

Please reject this proposal.

Respectfully,
Tracy Dietzel
515 S. Paterson